TIM VIGIL NEW BADGER ARTIST ❁ WILL CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN RETURN TO DC? ❁ DARK HORSE, NBM UNITE WITH CHEVAL NOIR ❁ GRIMJACK GN SCHEDULED ❁ TAPPING THE VEIN GOES INTO CIRCULATION IN MARCH ❁ PLUS FEBRUARY HOT PICKS!

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COMIC SHOP NEWS™

THE WEEKLY COMICS NEWSLETTER!

From:

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Groo grows into Second Tile

by Cliff Biggers

In his own comic title from Marvel's Epic line, Groo has managed to bring bad luck and doom to dozens of kings, warriors, pirates, and magicians. Some fans may not realize that Groo's tendency to jinx almost everything he is involved with managed to take out an entire comics company as well!

To be fair, Groo wasn't the cause of Pacific Comics' downfall a half-decade ago--in fact, ***Groo*** was quite probably Pacific's most popular title when the company was publishing it. But once Pacific went out of business and ***Groo*** moved to his new home at Marvel, ***Groo*** gained tens of thousands of new fans--many of whom had never heard of Pacific Comics and were totally unaware that there were any other Groo exploits prior to the Epic run.

To help educate ***Groo*** fans about the brainless barbarian's earlier exploits, Epic Comics will publish a new six-issue bookshelf format series, ***The Groo Chronicles***, re-presenting the earlier Groo adventures from both the Pacific run and the Eclipse ***Groo Special*** as well.

Fans who have the original ***Groo*** issues won't want to miss ***The Groo Chronicles***; rather than simply reprinting the original issues, the earlier stories will be reworked by Sergio Aragones, Mark Evanier, and Stan Sakai, and each issue will feature fully airbrushed color by Tom Luth.

The Groo Chronicles will feature the first appearances of the Sage, mulch, Chakaal, the Woman Warrior, sinking ships, the vile Taranto, cheese dip, the Minstrel, and the Sage's dog.

"If Pacific Comics had known what they were starting, they might never have returned Sergio's calls," editor Dan Chichester said. "As it is, we only have ourselves to blame for the fact that ***Groo*** has been an Epic Comic for more than fifty issues. ***The Groo Chronicles*** will be published in Marvel's deluxe bookshelf format, featuring 48 pages of story in squarebound editions for $3.50. Each issue will also feature new front and back covers by Sergio Aragones. The first monthly issue should reach comics shops on March 30.

Phantom set to walk through DC Universe

By Wayne Lee

Lee Falk's 1934 creation ***The Phantom*** is certainly one of the oldest of all costumed heroes in comics. The Ghost Who Walks has made several excursions from the pages of newspaper comic strips to the pages of comic books, most recently from DC in a 1987 four-issue limited series that introduced comics readers to an updated version of one of the oldest costumed heroes around, courtesy of Peter David and Joe Orlando. In February, the legacy of the Phantom line of justice seekers will continue in a New Format ongoing monthly series.

The Phantom #1 tells of a civil war that is taking place in the small African nation of Satif-Bioko. A British gun-runner named Cammell is the head of an organization that is dealing arms to both sides. He leaves a bloody trail in his wake as he crushes anyone who gets in his way. For centuries the ancestors of the Phantom fought piracy and thievery at every turn--but now the Phantom finds himself facing a very different form of crime with the fate of a nation at stake. The 21st Phantom is the man who must stop Cammell and make Satif-Bioko safe for its citizenry.

The Phantom is being written by Mark Verheiden, also the author of ***The American*** and ***Aliens*** for Dark Horse. Joining him will be artist Luke McDonnell on pencils and inks; McDonnell has previously illustrated ***Suicide Squad*** and the ***Deadshot*** limited series for DC. The first issue should reach comics shops on February 9th.

Les Girls Brings More Fun to Comico

by Cliff Biggers

The Trouble With Girls, the popular comic chronicling Lester Girls' unsuccessful attempts to lead a normal life instead of the adventurous, glamorous existence he is cursed with, makes its new home at Comico in February--and Comico's giving it four colors to welcome it aboard!

The Trouble With Girls began in 1987 as a black-and-white title from Eternity Comics, where it received widespread critical acclaim. The series, created by Will Jacobs and Gerard Jones (who also write it) and illustrated by Tim Hamilton, satirizes the world of a top secret agent who longs for the mundane life.

The book has appeared irregularly recently--but that isn't a sign that anything's wrong. Instead, it was a planned action at Eternity Comics to eliminate a long period without Girls. "We want to stress to readers that the new Comico ***Girls*** title will be released on a dependable monthly schedule," Schreck commented. "The last several Eternity issues have been released on a somewhat erratic schedule in order to lessen the gap between Eternity's last ***Girls*** issue and Comico's first," he said.

Matt Webb, a graduate of DC Comics' Bonus Book program and a relative newcomer to the comics industry, will join Jacobs, Jones, and Hamilton as colorist of the series. "Matt does a bang-up job adding a whole new dimension to the characters with his paint brush," Editor Diana Schutz said.

"We're also planning to spotlight various guest inkers on the front covers of the series, starting with the first issue," Schutz added. The first issue's cover will be inked by Will Blyberg; Al Gordon will ink the cover for the second issue, and longtime comics veteran Dick Ayers will ink the third issue. "We will most likely continue to have guest inkers featured on the cover of the series," Bob Schreck said," and will announce future inkers as they are confirmed."

Because of its adult themes, the series will carry a "Parental Guidance Suggested" banner across the top of the cover.

NEWSBRIEFS

LAVA MEN HEAT UP AVENGERS

John Byrne's first issue as writer of the ***Avengers*** will appear in late March, and Byrne goes way back in Avengers history to resurrect the Lava Men, who first threatened the team in ***Avengers #5***. In ***Avengers 305***, they return to launch an attack against Avengers island, and Captain America has to call in everyone who has ever been an Avenger. There's no word on who'll be pencilling this issue yet--but we'll let you know just as soon as the info is available!

BADGER'S VIGIL BEGINS IN BADGER 51

After **Mike Baron** completes his work on ***Badger #50***,he'll be taking a break from the regular ***Badger*** title to work on the upcoming ***Badger Goes Berserk*** limited series. Filling in for him as writer will be friend and fellow First Comics author **Roger Salick**. Joining Salick for a three-issue stint as artist on ***Badger*** will be hot artist **Tim Vigil**. Salick comes to Badger with a great deal of martial arts expertise, being a black-belt martial artist himself; his own martial arts series, ***Sensei*** (done with artist Val Mayerik) is set to debut in the First Fiction line in May. Vigil is best known for his work on ***Grips***, ***Faust***, and ***Omega***.

CHALLENGERS TO BECOME KNOWN AGAIN?

Are ***The Challengers of the Unknown*** returning to comics at DC? It's under consideration, according to ***Star Scanner***, published by Star-Reach Productions. In their December issue, ***Star Scanner*** reported that **Barbara Kesel** is working with **Tim Sale** on a proposed ***Challengers of the Unknown*** series. "As far as the ***Challengers of the Unknown*** project, which hasn't officially been approved as we speak," said Barbara Kesel, "I enjoy working with Tim Sale because Tim isn't afraid of the ghosts involved with the property. Certain DC readers will, of course, feel that some of the things we've done with the Challengers are heretical, but Tim just jumps in and makes it his own.

"This makes it more fun for me to work--when it means more to the creators. The Challengers are older than most of the heroes at DC. They were one of the first groups, they used to go around beating up monsters, but now they've been surpassed by all the costumed heroes. They're just four guys running around with equipment, who've been kind of outdated."

Once ***The Challengers of the Unknown*** is firmly placed in DC's schedule, ***CSN*** will let you know.

MIRACLEMAN BOOK THREE ENDING SCHEDULED

The long-awaited ending to **Alan Moore**'s third book of Miracleman has finally been scheduled by Eclipse; ***Miracleman #16***, the final Miracleman tale by Alan Moore will feature the aftermath of the Kid Miracleman battle. Miracleman and Miraclewoman set out to rebuild London--but they don't stop there! The story explores the limits of power that superbeings should be allowed to have. Furthermore, Eclipse promises that this issue will tie up every loose thread and will feature the return of Liz Moran, Winter, Big Begn, and Miracledog--just in time for **Gaiman and Buckingham** to make their debut on ***Miracleman*** #17.

IS MAZE AGENCY SHARP ENOUGH TO FACE JACK THE RIPPER?

Mike Barr's and Adam Hughes' superb mystery comic ***The MAZE Agency*** takes on one of the most studied mysteries of all in ***MAZE Agency #4***'s story, "The Return of Jack the Ripper...?" The story focuses on members of the "Ripperologists," a private society of criminologists dedicated to the study of Whitechapel's most notorious killer; one by one, members of the group are being murdered? Who's the murderer--and could it be Jack, back a century later to pick up his old trade? That's what Gabe and Jennifer have to find out, and you can join their investigation on March 16th.

MAGIC WARS SPELLS TROUBLE FOR LEGION

The Legion of Super-Heroes have always lives in a world of super science--but in ***Legion of Super-Heroes #60***, on sale in late March, the team faces some serious problems when magic is loosed in the world of the 30th Century, with serious effects on the Legionnaires. The storyline is the first of a four-parter written by **Paul Levitz** and illustrated by **Keith Giffen and Al Gordon**.

TIGER-X GROWLS INTO ACTION IN NEW SERIES

Ben Dunn's ***Tiger-X*** proved to be enormously popular, but Ben Dunn is such a busy man nowadays that he has no time to continue the series on his own. Eternity has found a solution that should be satisfactory to Tiger-X fans, though; the series will continue beginning in April, but Ben Dunn will be advising on the book rather than writing or drawing it. Replacing him as writer is **Paul O'Connor**, while **Juan Muro** will be turning in some outstanding artwork for the new ***Tiger-X*** series, as the cover for the first issue will attest.

ATOMIC WRESTLING WOMEN TAKE HOLD AT SLAVE LABOR

We swear to you that we don't make these titles up, guys; coming up from Slave Labor Graphics in March is ***Curse of the Atomic Wrestling Women***. The title may say it all, but this one-shot written and illustrated by Scott Saavedra does get a few lines of description from the folks at Slave Labor. "Rock creatures from another world, a granny lady wrestler, the French Foreign Legion, and Nuclear Energy combine to make up the tale of The ***Curse of the Atomic Wrestling Women***. Wouldn't you know, it's a love story." And tat pretty much says it all. Fans of offbeat and esoteric comics will want to put this one at the top of their lists; it's 32 pages worth of zaniness for only $1.95.

SNART HAS A CODE– AND NEW ADVENTURES

A few issues ago, ***CSN*** told you that NOW Comics had become the latest member of the Comics Code; now a new new NOW title has been added to the list of Code-approved comics as ***Ralph Snart*** gets Code approval. "The issues which have been approved from cover to cover are #8-10," Tony Caputo of NOW said. "The only revision was changing the word 'scumbag' to 'scum.'"

Marc Hansen, creator/writer/artist of ***Ralph Snart Adventures***, said, "They're not as stringent as I thought they'd be." Hansen is pleased that the Code approval will open the book to a wider audience. As it turns out, one of the approved issues, ***Ralph Snart Adventures #10***, is also the first non-reprint issue of the series. That issue will feature an all-new twenty-four page lead story with a special "comics-code" backup. It should reach comics shops in April.

DA DA DA DA DA DA DA...BATMAN!

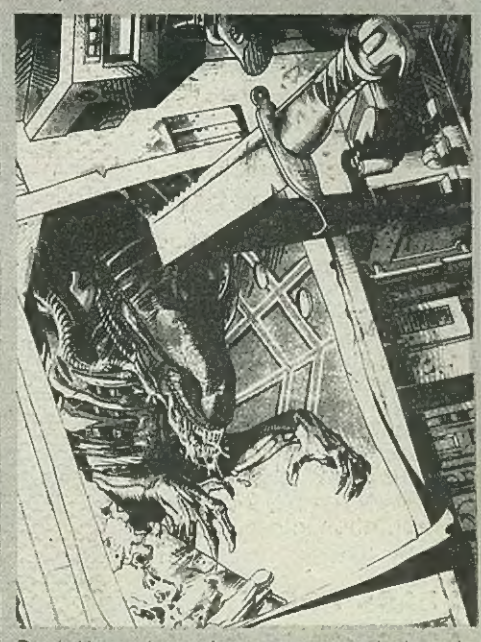
With all the interest in the Batman film slated for summer 1989 release, there's been a resurgence of interest in the Batman film of some 20 years ago; now fans can own a black-and-white reproduction of the Adam West-Burt Ward film for their very own. ***The Batman Movie Poster*** will be available in comics shops in February or March; it's a 22" x 35" reproduction of the one-sheet movie poster for the film that pitted Batman against the Joker, the Riddler, Catwoman, and The Penguin. Be sure to let your local comics shop know that you want a copy; with the current interest in Batman in comics and films, this one should disappear pretty quick.

FANS DREDD NEW T-SHIRTS

Judge Dredd will be featured on two new full-color t-shirts from Quality Comics; the new designs should be available in April. The first shirt features a drawing of the Judge himself, along with the famous slogan ***I Am The Law***, reproduced on a white t-shirt. The second design features a midnight blue t-shirt with a shining gold judge badge reproduced prominently in front. Each shirt will be priced at $10.

DARK HORSE LEADS ALIENS INVASION

Aliens has been a hit for Dark Horse and has become one of the best-selling black-and-white comics of all time; fans aren't satisfied with just the comic, though, and keep demanding more. Dark Horse is set to meet the demand with several new ***Aliens*** items. First off is a 3-set series of ***Aliens*** lithographs by **Mark A. Nelson**. These multi-colored lithographs will be true lithographs done by the stone lithography method. Each hand-pulled print will be limited to a 250-copy signed and numbered edition. The first series should be available in late spring or early summer.



Dark Horse has also announced plans to release a series of ***Aliens*** cloisonne pins base don the ***Aliens*** movies and characters. Designs will include the alien monster himself, the queen, chest-burster, face-hugger, and spacecraft. The first pins are slated for April release.

ARCHIE'S MILLENNIUM DEBUTS

Archie has certainly been a success story in this century--but it looks like he's going to continue for at least a thousand more years! That's the way the publishers of Archie see it, and they're sharing their vision with fans in the pages of ***Archie 3000!***, a new comics series that begins on March 2nd. The new series will feature futuristic versions of Archie, Reggie, Betty, Veronica, Jughead, and many other Archie regulars in a distant-future setting. And the real advantage to Archie Comics' approach is that they never have to worry about explaining the continuity!...

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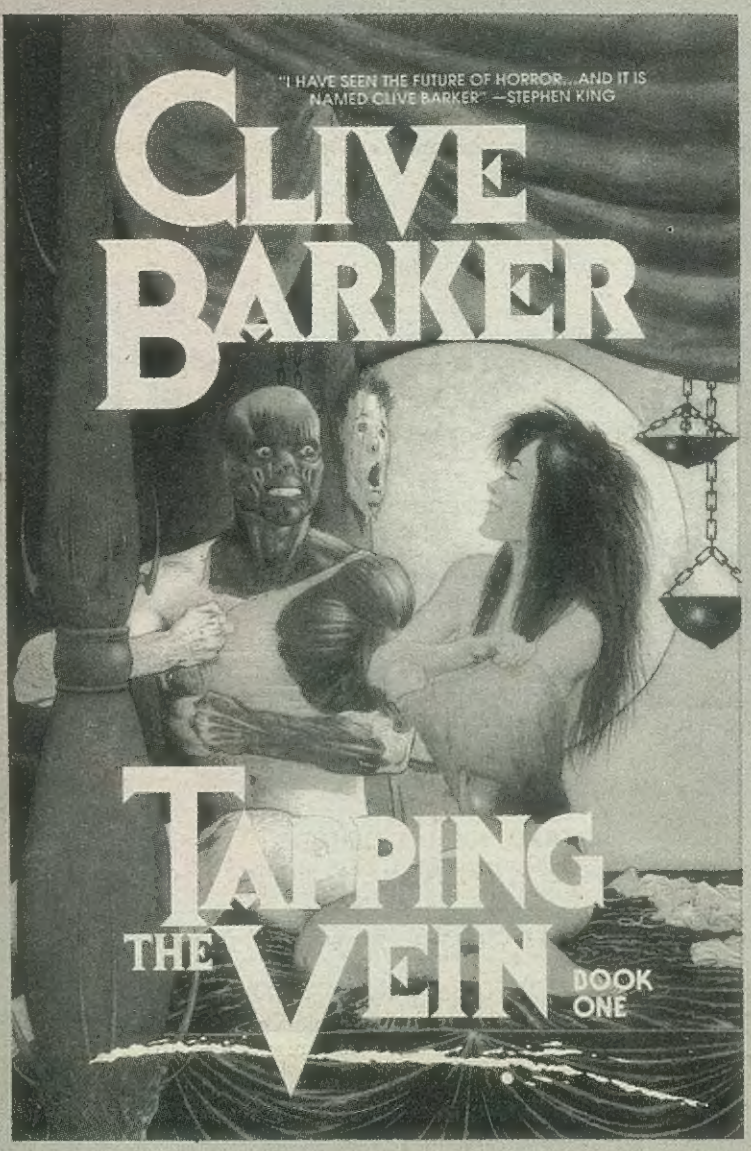
NEWSBRIEFS

TAPPING THE VEIN GOES INTO CIRCULATION IN MARCH

Tapping the Vein, the classic format series from Eclipse that adapts Clive Barker's ***Books of Blood*** into comics format, has been scheduled for late March release. The first issue will feature 64 pages of material for $4.95. The first issue will adapt "Skins of the Fathers," a parental love story of monsters and their offspring illustrated by **Klaus Janson**. The other story in the first volume, adapted by ***P. Craig Russell,*** is "Human Remains," a dark and sensual tale of beauty stolen--and blood shed. The stunning cover for the book is contributed by **John Bolton**. Eclipse also adds that future issues will feature the artwork of **Denys Cowan, Michael Davis, Scott Hampton, Dave McKean, John Totleben,** and more. Horror fans are already aware of Barker's stellar reputation, and film fans know him for his work on ***Hellraiser*** and ***Hellbound. Tapping the Vein*** will certainly expand his reputation into comics as well.



DARK HORSE, NBM UNITE WITH CHEVAL NOIR

NBM has joined forces with Dark Horse Comics to bring some of the greatest names in European comics to an American audience. ***Mike Richardson*** of Dark Horse and ***Terry Nantier*** of NBM have agreed to unite on a deluxe format anthology title, ***Cheval Noir,*** that will feature work by artists whose works have rarely, if ever, been made available in English.

"This has been our loss," says Richardson, "and we're proud to be able to help make these works accessible to American readers. The drama and appeal of these stories are universal; all you have to do is translate the written language."

Cheval Noir will feature work by such artists as **Philippe Druillet** (winner of the Grand Prix d'Angouleme for the entire body of his work), **Andreas, Tardi, Schuiten, and Renaud.** The first issue of ***Cheval Noir*** is schedule for an early summer release. After the works appear in ***Cheval Noir,*** NBM will collect them into a series of graphic albums.

Cheval Noir won't be Dark Horse's only venture into foreign comics reprintings. Richardson said that Dark Horse is making arrangements with a number of other companies to acquire both new and classic comic work from around the world. "Our goal is to collect the best of this material and present it to our readers under one cover."

NEIL AND BUZZ BACK ON SCHEDULE

Fantagraphics' ***Neil & Buzz in Space and Time #1,*** originally scheduled for 1988 release, was delayed because of **Henry Mayo's** film design work. Now he's had a chance to finish the art on the book, though, and Fantagraphics is all set to release the book in late February.

The folks at Fantagraphics say that Mayo's art on the comic is stunning; he's made use of a lot of Craftint to add depth and dimension to the artwork. The script, of course, is by sf author **George Alec Effinger,** renowned for his offbeat, sometimes zany approach to storytelling. Keep an eye out for it!

NEW COMICS OFFERS ASYLUM

Horror anthologies are becoming very big again, and New Comics is set to enter the creaking door of the horror market with a new anthology title, ***Asylum.*** The first issue of ***Asylum,*** scheduled for early April release, will feature stories by **Steve Bissette and Alex Nino, James Robert Smith and Christopher Schenck, and Clark Ashton Smith and John R. Bright.** Horror luminary **Berni Wrightson** will contribute the cover for the first issue of the bi-monthly series. The stories deal with adult themes and chilling subjects. Future contributors to ***Asylum*** include **John Bolton, Craig Hamilton,** and **Denys Cowan.** Each 24 page black and white issue will be priced at $1.75.

ROSA PREDICTS SCROOGE FARCE IN "NOSTRILDAMUS"

Don Rosa, the popular artist/writer who has contributed a number of all-new Scrooge adventures to various Gladstone duck titles, will offer a new Scrooge story, "The Curse of Nostrildamus," in ***Uncle Scrooge 235,*** on sale in early April. In addition, Rosa illustrates a new cover for ***Donald Duck adventures #13,*** on sale the same week; the cover ties in with a story that has Donald joining the Mounties.

ZOMOID ILLUSTORIES 2-D RELEASE FROM 3-D ZONE

In April, ***3-D Zone*** will release a new humor collection, ***Zomoid Stories,*** gathering original stories and art from the new wave series of the same name. Artists featured in the anthology include **Carol Lay, Jim Shaw, Gary Panter, Wayne Honath, Peter Bagge, JR Williams, and Brian James Reidel.** The collection also includes an interview with Ray Zone. Because of the mature nature of some of the material, it will carry an adults only logo. "***Zomoid Illustories*** collects some of the strongest work from the series and will introduce a larger audience to some very zany work from the arena of self-publishing. It is a fitting book to publish in the month of the April Fool," said Zone.

SECRET ORIGINS TELLS TITAN-IC TALE

The Teen Titans (nowadays known as the ***New Titans***) have been in the superhero biz for decades now in real-time--and many fans may not know all the details of their origin. That's why ***Secret Origins Annual 3,*** on sale in early April, will devote 80 pages to retelling the origin of the Titans, from their early days as kid sidekicks to the formation of their first team to the evolution of the modern Titans. A variety of artists, including **Irv Novick and Tom Grummett,** will illustrate the story that is written by ***Titans*** favorite **George Perez,** who also contributes the cover for this issue.

SOULQUEST ADDS PAGES

SoulQuest, the Innovation Comics graphic novel by **Peter Quinones, Glen Johnson,** and **Jim Sinclair,** has been expanded from 44 pages to 52 pages; in spite of the addition of 8 pages of new story and art giving background material on the characters, as well as a map of the kingdom of Caldremusk and surrounding areas, the price will remain the same.

"We thought the map would be a real treat for the readers," said Quinones. "It's one thing to tell someone where the battlefields are, and where exactly Blackshard's castle is in relation to the castle of Caldremusk. It's another entirely for the reader to be able to see these things for themselves."

Readers will be able to see them on their own in early March, when ***SoulQuest*** reaches comics shops.

UNREPRINTED SPIRIT STORIES SEE LIGHT OF DAY IN MARCH

Spirit #53, on sale in March, will feature the usual four Spirit stories--but three of these stories have never been reprinted. The stories making their first reappearance in almost four decades are "The Prediction of Druid Peer," "Rat Trapp," and "Roller Derby." The final story in the issue, "Nickles Nerser," has only been reprinted once before.

GRIMJACK GRAPHIC NOVEL SLATED

Grimjack is celebrating its fifth anniversary next month at First--and the company is busy making plans for ***Grimjack***'s sixth year in comics. The new plans include a ***Grimjack*** graphic novel, to be written by **John Ostrander** and illustrated by **Flint Henry.** No firm release date has been set for the graphic novel yet, but tentative plans call for a 1990 release. ***CSN*** will bring you more information as soon as it is available.

SUPERMAN AND WONDER WOMAN UNITED AGAIN

Mayfair Games will bring Superman and Wonder Woman together for their first dual exploit since ***Action #600. War of the Gods,*** the Match Play double-book that ties in with the DC Role-Playing Game, will feature a 32-page book for each character. The adventure is written by **Dan Greenberg,** the author of the two best-selling Mayfair games additions ***Who Watches the Watchmen?*** and ***Strangers in Paradise.***

War of the Gods puts Darkseid in conflict with Ares in a struggle for control of Earth. Superman becomes aware of Ares' plan to destroy Darkseid, while Wonder Woman discovers Darkseid's plot to end Ares' existence. Each finds himself allied with a villain, leading to the strange teams of Superman and Darkseid and Wonder Woman and Ares. The $9 Match Play book will be available in March.

GRAPHIC NOVEL EXPLORES PARALLEL LIVES

Some of **Marvel's** most popular graphic novels are those that feature superheroes, so you can be sure the ***Parallel Lives,*** a graphic novel slated for late March release, will be quite popular indeed. It features ***Spider-Man*** in a story that explores the many similarities in Peter Parker's and Mary Jane Watson's lives over the years. The graphic novel will have its share of action as well; Doctor Octopus will be featured, along with the revelation of just how Mary Jane Watson learned that Peter Parker was really Spider-Man.

Gerry Conway, Alex Saviuk, and **Andy Mushynsky** present the 64-page story that should reach comics shops on March 30th.

T-SHIRT ADDS NEW DIMENSION TO 3-D ZONE

3-D Zone has been known for its 3-D Comics, but the company expands in a new direction in March when they release their first 3-D t-shirt. The multi-dimensional garment features **Basil Wolverton** splash-panel art from Nightmare World printed in 3-D; each shirt will come with 3-D glasses (which, we presume, you're supposed to give to other people who have to look at you).

Be sure to let your local comics shop know that you want one of the shirts--it should be available in March.

ANIMATO ON THE FRITZ

Animato, the magazine of animation, has just made its move from digest-sized to 8.5 x 11 format--and for its eighteenth issue, Animato will cover-feature an interview with Fritz Freleng, the great Warner Brothers cartoon director and creator of the Pink Panther. In this interview, a first for any animation magazine, Freleng discusses his early days with Walt Disney, his work with Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, and other characters, as well as his later career in animation.

The same issue will also feature a look at today's Walt Disney Pictures. Look for the 44-page issue in March.

FEBRUARY HOT PICKS!

Hot Picks Checklist for February

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by Cliff Biggers

Okay, it's the dreary wintertime. A few years ago, this would have meant that you would find some pretty lean pickings at the local comics shop; everyone used to view the winter as the dead period in comics sales, so comics fans had to get by with the standard monthly comics and little else. That's not the case nowadays, though; comics have become strong sellers on a year-round basis, and publishers are offering quite a variety of publications every month. The fan looking for some good books the read in February will find a couple of dozen hot titles warming the shelves up for him this time around.

Catalan is set to break into the all-ages comics market with its Comcat line, and the first release, ***The Adventures of Yoko, Vic, and Paul***, is a great start. This sf-adventure series is suitable for young and old readers (unlike the Catalan line, which is aimed at adults) and it should serve as a fine addition to the growing line of European reprints. For far too long, American fans assumed that the only good comics were produced in America; it's good to see that misconception fall by the wayside.

Aliens has been the hottest black-and-white comic published in the past few years; you

can rest assured that sales of ***Aliens #4*** are going to sizzle just as strongly as the first three issues. Comics fans are in love with this series, and with good reason: the odds are that the third film won't be as good as this comics sequel to ***Aliens***.

Blackhawk #1 should be very popular with comics fans; this issue has a story that involves a comic book publisher and a move to control the content of comics in the 1950's, so it'll certainly appeal to fans of comics in-jokes. It's also following on the heels of the very popular ***Blackhawk*** run in ***Action Comics Weekly***, so the series will have a strong audience. Be sure to give it a try while you can; this one won't stay on the shelves for long.

Calvin & Hobbes is the best comic strip currently being published; everyone who's given it a try is aware of the appeal of this strip. The latest collection, ***Yukon Ho!***, is set for February release. If you haven't tried ***Calvin and Hobbes***, you really should latch on to a copy of this book and last fall's release, ***The Essential Calvin and Hobbes***; the two of them will give you pretty much the entire ***Calvin and Hobbes*** run in two handy packages. Don't wait long, though; this book is going to appeal to non-comics-fans as well as comics shop regulars, so latch onto it while you can.

A Case of Blind Fear is a new Sherlock Holmes tale by Martin Powell and Seppo Makinen, the team who created the superb ***Scarlet in Gaslight*** series last year for Eternity. This time around, they unite Sherlock Holmes with H.G. Wells' Invisible Man, and the resulting mini-series is, if anything, even better than the first Powell-Makinen team-up. Sherlock Holmes fans will consider this a must-have--and fans of well-done detective comics should take a look at it as well.

Catwoman #3 continues a super-hot Batman-tie-in limited series. Everyone knows how very hot Batman has been for the past few months; this series is riding on that success and is vanishing from comics shops in record time. If you read ***Batman Year One***, then you know why most Batman fans find Catwoman an indispensable read.

The Crow #1 is Jim O'Barr's creation for Caliber Comics; the first installment in the pages of ***High Caliber*** was very powerful and moody stuff, and O'Barr shows a lot of promise in a Matt-Wagnerian way. This is a violent comic that isn't a gory comic--check it out and see what I mean. I think O'Barr--and the Crow--are going to go far.

Dark Horse Presents #28 is a Dark Horse Presents Annual featuring Concrete, Mr. Monster, and many, many more Dark Horse regulars. With Concrete quickly becoming the hip comic of 1989, no one will want to miss this special. Anything with Concrete in it will be hot, and this is no exception.

Detective #598 kicks off the 3-part story by Sam Hamm and Denys Cowan; "The Lost YEars of Batman" explores the development of Bruce Wayne's Batman persona, and it's quite a way to celebrate Batman's 50th Birthday. It's also going to be the first really hot Batman project after the success of "A Death in the Family," so you can count on lots of casual readers adding this issue to their must-have list. Sam Hamm is the screenwriter for the upcoming ***Batman*** film, so if you want to see just what his vision of Batman is, then this is the book for you.

Elfquest Book 6 collects material that's never appeared in color before--namely the end of the Siege at Blue Mountain storyline--so Elfquest fans who haven't bought the first four trade paperbacks will want this volume for sure. Since it's appearing so close to the concluding issue of ***Blue Mountain***, a lot of fans are planning to hold off on buying the comic and just get the trade paperback instead, so look for a lot more interest than usual in this volume. Remember, the first volume has already gone out of print and will have to be reprinted--take that as a word to the wise...

Jim Starlin is back, not only as a comics writer, but as a comics artist as well, and ***Gilgamesh II*** is the book that marks his return. This is a little different for a Starlin book, his style seems a bit European-influenced in this book, and I think Starlin fans are going to be thrilled with the change. It's still Starlin in his cosmic mode, though, so fans of classic Starlin will be happier with this than with anything he's done in quite a while. It has another plus going for it: it's a DC prestige-format book, and they've had a superb track record so far.

Twilight Man 1

The action is really picking up in ***Havok & Wolverine: Meltdown #3***, one of the most successful prestige/bookshelf format series of all time. The first couple of issues were strong on character and plot development, but things kick into high gear in the third issue--and that's what Wolverine fans have been waiting for! I don't think we have to tell you how successful almost anything with Wolverine in it is--and since this is probably the most visually stunning Wolverine project ever done, you can count on it being a sizzler for February.

1989 seems to be a year for humor, and ***Hero Hotline*** marks DC's entry into the field. It's a well-done entry indeed, and since comics fans seem to be enjoying superhero satires and spoofs, I think they'll find this intriguing little book particularly appealing. ***Hero Hotline*** should find the audience that ***'Mazing Man*** missed a couple of years ago.

Huntress is back--but it's a new Huntress. That won't hurt the character's appeal at all, though; Cavaliere, Staton, and Farmer have given the new Huntress the same strong appeal the original character had, and even though there isn't a Batman tie-in for the current character, everyone who remembers her predecessor is going to check this book out. That's why ***Huntress #1*** is going to be one of the more popular first issues of 1989--so don't be left out!

Mark Verheiden has another hot book on this month's list--***Aliens #4***. Verheiden's a quality writer, so you can count on his ***Phantom #1*** to be extremely well-done. Like Peter David (who wrote the ***Phantom*** mini-series), Verheiden is retaining the elements of Falk's Phantom while bringing his own style to the book. Furthermore, with fan-favorite Luke McDonnell on artwork, this series is going to be doubly attractive to comics fans--so check and out and see why so many people are so interested in one of comics' oldest heroes!

Long before Howard Chaykin made ***the Shadow*** popular again, Denny O'Neil and Mike Kaluta were doing comics' definitive version of ***The Shadow***. Those classic tales from the early 70's are being collected into a quality hardcover with an all-new Kaluta story as a bonus; ***Private Files of the Shadow*** features the Shadow the way he should be done, and he's never been better than what you're going to find in this book. New fans will be thrilled with the package--and

FEBRUARY HOT PICKS!

A Case of Blind Fear 1

old fans are going to want the new story to keep their collection complete. Comics fans seem to really appreciate quality hardcovers, also; that's another plus for a book that has a lot in its favor already.

Last month, ***Punisher: Return to Big Nothing*** was a hot pick, but it was delayed at the last minute. Assuming everything is go and it makes it this month, you can count on it being one of the best-selling graphic novels ever.

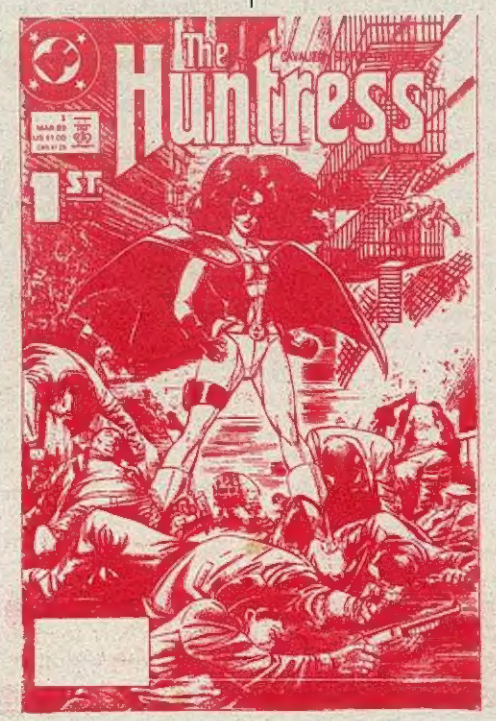
Meanwhile, Punisher is about to face off against the most popular character in the Marvel Universe, Wolverine, and ***Punisher: War Journal 6 and 7*** will tell the tale. This month we get the first part--and you can be sure that it's going to be a super-fast-sell-out issue. This is the kind of battle that Wolverine fans have been clamoring for--and here it is!

With all the attention devoted to the Joker, everyone's all but forgotten about one of my favorite Batman villains, the Riddler. Denny O'Neil and Denys Cowan haven't forgotten him, though; they're bringing him back in ***Question*** #26, and they promise it's not the buffoonish Riddler so many people recall from the television series. Batman fans need to add ***Question*** #26 to their shopping list for February--and fans of the ***Question*** already know better than to miss this issue!

Spacehawk is one of the most famous of all classic comics creations; Basil Wolverton's offbeat space opera has gained almost legendary status in comics history. Now Dark Horse is bringing back the classic Wolverton material in ***Spacehawk*** #1--and as a bonus, they're presenting new Spacehawk stories for the first time in three decades! That's a combination that's sure to spell sellout.

Two years ago, the Michelinie and Zeck Kraven stories proved just how popular the miniseries-within-a-series could be. Those six issues were almost all instant sellouts, and the story has held up well in the years following its initial release. Now Marvel is collecting all six issues into one hardcover volume, ***Spider-Man: Fearful Symmetry***, giving the material quality reproduction on better paper stock for addition to Marvel fans' permanent library.

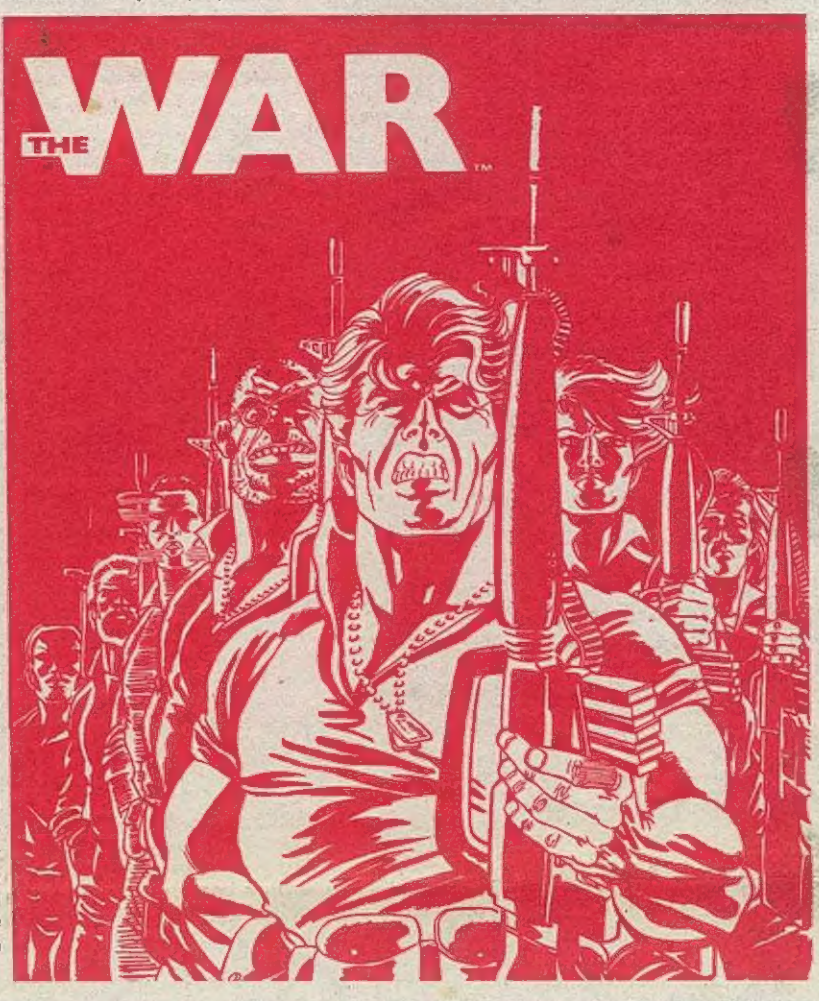
Here's an oddity for the hot picks list: a pair of publications that are over a decade old. But Steranko's ***History of Comics Volume One and Two*** are still the best comics histories ever done. The chapter on Batman in Volume Two is a must-have for any Batman fan--but comics historians will find Steranko's comprehensive history of comics' early years to be unparalleled. These books have been unavailable for years--but some distributors have come across a supply of copies, and comics shops should have them available this month. Don't miss them--and wouldn't it be great if Steranko would finish this project and bring his comics history on into the 80's?



There is no comic on the stands that is funnier than Jacobs' and Jones' ***The Trouble With Girls.*** Ever since the first appearance of this series from Malibu Comics, I have raved about just how great it was--and obviously lots of you agreed, because it's been an extremely popular title ever since then. Now ***The Trouble With Girls*** has a new home at Comico, and it's a full-color comic; I suspect that the new publisher and the full-color are going to make ***The Trouble With Girls*** one of Comico's most popular titles. If you've ever enjoyed a spy-thriller, a James Bond film, or a detective series, then you're sure to enjoy the humorous exploits of Lester Girls, the hero who longs for a mundane life.

First kicks off their First Fiction line with ***Twilight Man #1;*** Steven Grant's story is very strong stuff indeed, and new artist Tristan Schane is going to be very popular once fans see his superb work on this four-issue miniseries. ***Twilight Man*** has everything going for it--great story, solid artwork, and a publishing format that will appeal to fans who are tired of comics produced on junk paper with mediocre printing. ***Twilight Man*** also proves just how good comics with mystical plotlines can be, if writers won't constrain themselves to the same old cliches.

V for Vendetta comes to an end in February with the release of the final issue, which will feature all new material by Moore and Lloyd. Sales jumped way up on the 8th issue because of the new material; #10 should be even more popular, since it wraps everything up. This is Alan Moore's farewell to superhero comics for a while, so be sure you're there for it.



Valerian is one of the most-enjoyed of all European sf series; it's been unavailable for a while in America, though. Now NBM is bringing ***Valerian*** back in full-color graphic album form, with two ***Valerian*** books scheduled for February release. With the current interest in European comics being at an all-time high, ***Valerian*** should be very popular with fans who want more than standard superhero comics adventures.

The New Universe is coming to an end in ***The War***--or at least the regular monthly series of New Universe books is ending. So what's happening? That's what this four-issue limited series will reveal--and every fan who's read a New Universe title is going to want to find out just what happens to "the world outside your window."

Wolverine #8 features the second half of the Hulk-Wolverine team-up; this is what Wolverine fans have been waiting to see in the pages of Wolverine's comic, so you can be sure that this issue will appeal to both fans of the ongoing ***Wolverine*** series and fans who like the character but haven't cared as much for the flavor of the monthly book so far. It's obvious that John Buscema is having a great time with the whole thing--this is some of his best artwork in years!

Overlooked Gem of the Month

2000 AD Presents has always had some pretty enjoyable material in its pages; the Judge Dredd and Judge Anderson stories have been solid reading. But the current run of 2000 AD Presents from Quality is presenting one of my favorite of all the British strips, Zenith by Grant Morrison and Steve Yeowell. This is a witty, entertaining superhero series that shows just why Morrison was tagged for books like ***Animal Man***. If you haven't been reading it, give it a try--every fan of ***Animal Man*** is sure to enjoy Morrison's earlier foray into the offbeat superhero field.

UPCOMING COMICS CHECKLIST

The Upcoming Comics listing of scheduled titles and the dates that they should arrive in comics shops across the country. That doesn't mean that the books will always be in your shop on the date listed: some publishers ship from different parts of the country, and the farther away the publisher is from your local comic shop, the longer it will take the books to get to you. Publishers are sometimes forced to reschedule titles, and that might result in some date changes on some releases.

Each entry presents the title and number of the book, followed by the release date; if a title doesn't have a scheduled release date (some publishers merely say that their books will ship in February without giving a date), we don't give you a date. After that is the Publisher of the comic and the price. If a book you're looking for is on the index and doesn't arrive in a week or two after the date, be sure to ask the friendly folks at your comics shop; they may be able to update you on schedule changes that have affected that book.

Hang on to this list! It presents the titles that are supposed to ship during the next four weeks. The first ***CSN*** each month lists every title scheduled to ship to ship that month.

☐**Aces 7** 1/26 Eclipse $2.95

☐***Action Comics Weekly 642*** 1/26 DC $1.50
Final issue of DC's weekly–but look for Action to return as a monthly Superman title by George Perez this spring!

☐***Advanced Dungeons & Dragons 4*** 2/9 DC $1.50

☐***Adventures of Yoko, Vic, & Paul*** ***TPB*** Comcat $6.95
Beginning Catalan's new line of books suitable for an all-ages audience–a CSN Hot Pick

☐***Airboy 48*** 2/16 Eclipse $1.95
Airboy Diary Part 3

☐**Akira 8** 1/26 Marvel $3.50

☐***Alf 16*** 2/16 Marvel $1

☐***Aliens 4*** Dark Horse $1.95
A CSN Hot Pick

☐***Alpha Flight 71*** 2/16 Marvel $1.50

☐***Amazing Spider-Man 316*** 2/16 Marvel $1

☐***Archie's Double Digest 40*** 2/9 Archie $2.25

☐***Area 88*** 39 2/9 Viz $1.75

☐***Astro Boy 19*** 2/9 NOW $1.75

☐***Avengers 304*** 2/23 Marvel $1

☐***Bad Company 6*** Quality $1.50

☐***Badger 48*** 2/9 First $1.95

☐***Batman 432*** 2/23 DC .75
Following Robin's death, Batman finds himself extremely involved in a missing child case

☐***Batman: Killing Joke 3rd*** 2/9 DC $3.50
Another printing of the mega-successful Moore-Bolland tale pitting Batman against the Joker

☐***Betty & Me 174*** 2/23 Archie .75

☐***Betty & Veronica Digest 36*** 2/9 Archie $1.35

☐***Black Kiss 9*** Vortex $1.25

☐***Blackhawk 1*** 2/9 DC $1.50
It's the 1950's, everyone's afraid of Communists, and the Blackhawks are in the air–a CSN Hot Pick

☐***Blind Fear 1*** Eternity $1.95
Powell and Makinen return to tell a new adventure of Sherlock Holmes and the Invisible Man–a CSN Hot Pick

☐***Blite 1*** Fantagraphics $2.25

☐***Blood TPB*** 2/9 Marvel $16.95
J. M. DeMatteis and Kent Williams vampire saga reprinted in one volume

☐***Bloodbrothers 3*** Eternity $1.95

☐***Brer Rabbit TPB*** 2/9 Comico $8.95
Illustrated by Arthur Suydam

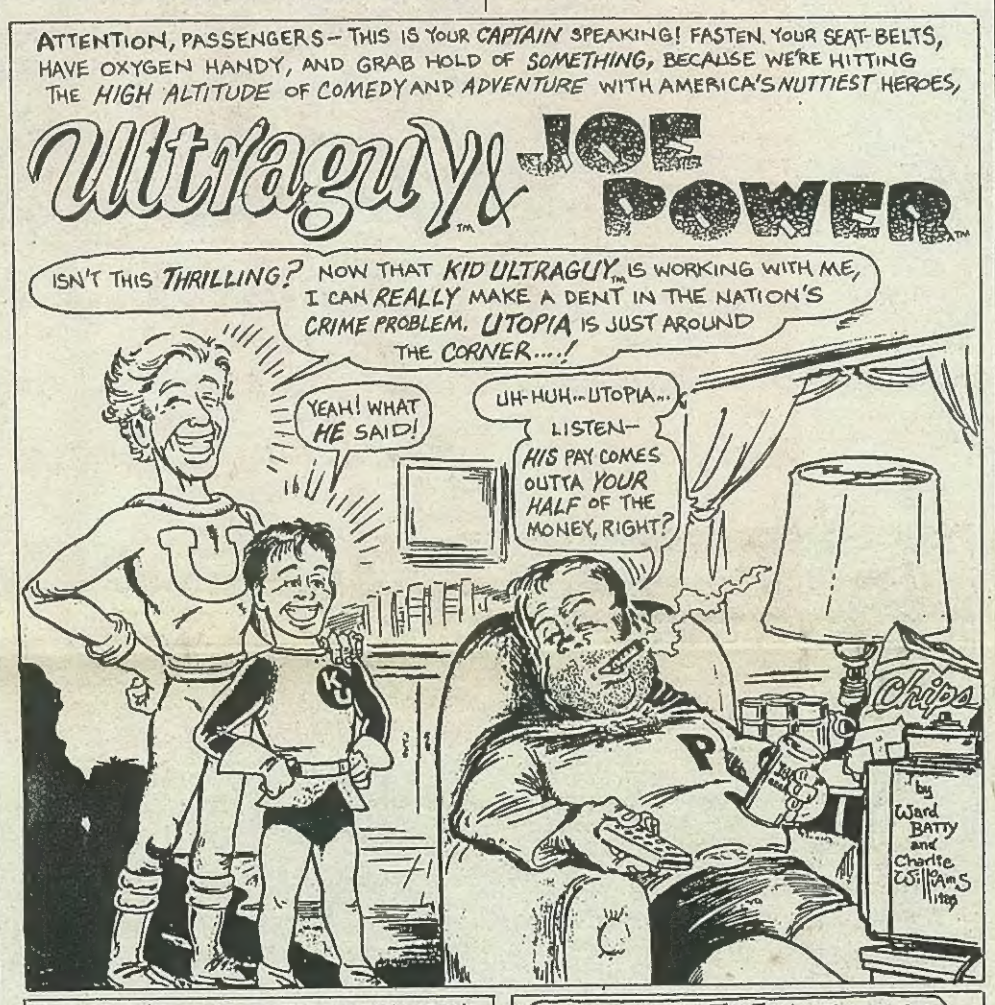
☐***Bull's Eye*** Bullseye $2.50

☐***Calvin & Hobbes: Yukon Ho!*** Andrews/McNeel $6.95
The newest Calvin and Hobbes trade paperback–this is the strip of 1989!–a CSN Hot Pick

☐***Captain America 354*** 2/16 Marvel .75

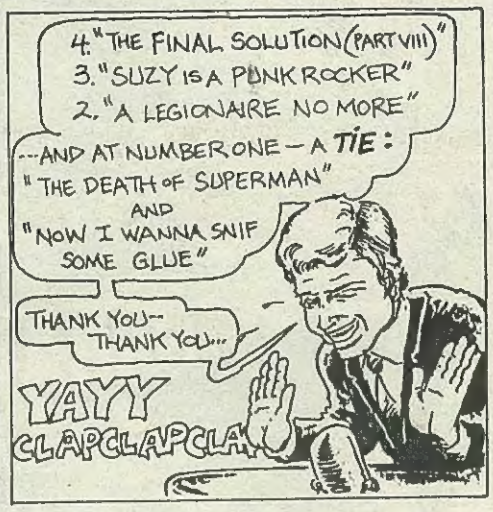
☐***Captain Atom 27*** 2/9 DC $1

☐***Cat & Mouse 2*** EF Graphics $1.75


ATTENTION, PASSENGERS-- THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING! FASTEN YOUR SEAT-BELTS, HAVE OXYGEN HANDY, AND GRAB HOLD OF SOMETHING, BECAUSE WE'RE HITTING THE HIGH ALTITUDE OF COMEDY AND ADVENTURE WITH AMERICA'S NUTTIEST HEROES,
Ultraguy & JOE POWER
ISN'T THIS THRILLING? NOW THAT KID ULTRAGUY IS WORKING WITH ME, I CAN REALLY MAKE A DENT IN THE NATION'S CRIME PROBLEM. UTOPIA IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER....!
YEAH! WHAT HE SAID!
UH-HUH--UTOPIA..
LISTEN-- HIS PAY COMES OUTTA YOUR HALF OF THE MONEY, RIGHT?
Chips
by Ward Batty and Charlie Williams 1989

OKAY-- WE GOT A TOP-TEN LIST FROM THE HOME OFFICE IN MILWAUKEE.... MMMM, AND THIS LIST IS FRESH-BAKED, JUST LIKE MOM USED TO MAKE THEM..!
CRASH
HA-HA-HA-HA-HA

LET'S SEE-- TOP TEN COMIC BOOK TITLES AND SONGS BY THE RAMONES---
10. "MY CREATOR, MY ENEMY"
9. "TEENAGE LOBOTOMY"
8. "THE GREAT BATMAN/GOGO GORILLA MIXUP"
7. "BLITZKREIG BOP"
6. "WHEN TITANS CLASH"
5. "GIMME GIMME SHOCK TREATMENT"


4. "THE FINAL SOLUTION (PART VIII)"
3. "SUZY IS A PUNK ROCKER"
2. "A LEGIONAIRE NO MORE"
---AND AT NUMBER ONE-- A TIE:
"THE DEATH OF SUPERMAN"
AND
"NOW I WANNA SNIF SOME GLUE"
THANK YOU-- THANK YOU...
YAYY
CLAPCLAPCLAP

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK!

the mystery man #2

" A well crafted comic book...you'll be intrigued."

Hal Hargit, Comics FX

ON SALE NOW!

Have you seen anything in this issue of ***Comic Shop News*** that you can't live without? Make sure you don't miss it; clip this handy coupon and write down the things that you want you comics shop owner to be sure to get for you!

Name_____

Address_____

Phone(H)_____(W)_____

I gotta have 'em! Please reserve for me the following items mentioned in ***Comic Shop News!***

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Be sure to give this to your retailer. **Do not send it to *CSN!*** Your comics shop will make every effort to get the items you want; some items may require a down payment before your shop owner can get them for you; be sure to ask!

UPCOMING COMICS CHECKLIST

☐ ***Catwoman 3*** 2/23 DC $1.50
Continuing the exploration of Catwoman's formative years–a CSN Hot Pick
☐ ***Cerebus 119*** Aardvark/Vanaheim $2
☐ ***Cerebus BiWeekly 5*** Aardvark/Vanaheim $1.25
☐ ***Cerebus Biweekly 6*** Aardvark/Vanaheim $1.25
☐ ***Checkmate! 15*** 2/16 DC $1.75
☐ ***Cobalt Blue Special 1*** Caliber $1.95
Keith Pollard artwork highlights the return of this Gustovich-created hero in a full color comic
☐ ***Conan 219*** 2/23 Marvel $1
☐ ***COPS 10*** 2/9 DC $1
☐ ***Cosmic Heroes 5*** Eternity $1.95
☐ ***Critters 37*** Fantagraphics$2
☐ ***Crow 1*** Caliber$1.95
Jim O'Barr's hero moves to his own book–a CSN Hot Pick
☐ ***Daikazu 5*** Ground Zero $1.50
☐ ***Damage Control 2*** 2/23 Marvel $1
☐ ***Daredevil 267*** 2/9 Marvel .75
Daredevil decides to abandon New York and his past
☐ ***Dark Horse Presents 28*** Dark Horse $2.95
Concrete, Roachmill, Mr. Monster, Black Cross, and more highlight this 48-page special issue–a CSN Hot Pick
☐ ***Dark Wolf 11*** Eternity $1.95
☐ ***Deadworld 13*** Caliber $1.95
☐ ***Death's Head 4*** 2/23 Marvel $1.75
☐ ***Demon Hunter 1*** Aircel $1.95
From the pages of Warlocks comes Barry Blair's demon-hunting mystic hero–a CSN Hot Pick
☐ ***Den 5*** Fantagor $2
☐ ***Denizens of Deep City 2*** Kitchen Sink $2
☐ ***Der Cylinderhead 1*** Slave Labor $1.95
☐ ***Detective 598*** 2/9 DC $2.95
Batman turns 50–and Sam Hamm, Denys Cowan, and Dick Giordano join forces to celebrate it with a

look at Batman's lost years! A massive 140-page 3-issue saga begins here–a CSn Hot Pick
☐ ***Dilton's Strange Science 1*** 2/16 Archie .75
☐ ***Dirty Pair 3*** 2/23 Eclipse $2
Presenting all-original adventures of the popular Japanese animation stars
☐ ***Doc Savage 8*** 2/16 DC $1.75
☐ ***Donald Duck 271*** Gladstone .95
☐ ***DP 7 32*** 2/16 Marvel $1.50
It's the end of the world as they know it, and they (don't) feel fine...
☐ ***Dr. Fate 5*** 2/9 DC $1.25
☐ ***Dr. Zero 7*** 2/23 Marvel $1.50
☐ ***Dragon's Claws 9*** 2/23 Marvel $1.75
☐ ***Dragonforce 10*** Aircel $1.95
☐ ***Dragonlance 7*** 2/23 DC $1.50
☐ ***Dreadstar 43*** 2/16 First $1.95

Peter David! Angel Medina! Jim Starlin! Daina Grazinunas! And it's all monthly!
Dreamery 14 2/16 Eclipse $2
☐ ***Dreamweavers GN*** 2/9 Marvel $5.95
Mumy, Ferrer, and Morrow present a graphic novel with adventure, suspense, and costumed heroes
☐ ***Eagle: Avenging Eagle TPB*** Apple $11.95
Reprinting the hard-to-find early issues of Eagle
☐ ***Earth: Year Zero 1*** 2/23 Eclipse $2
☐ ***Elflord 28*** Aircel $1.95
☐ ***Elfquest Volume 6*** Fathertree Press $16.95
Presenting the final segments of Siege at Blue Mountain in full color–a CSN Hot Pick
☐ ***Everything's Archie 142*** 2/16 Archie .75
☐ ***Ex-Mutants 9*** Eternity $1.95
☐ ***Excalibur 9*** 2/9 Marvel $1.50
☐ ***Fantastic Four 327*** 2/23 Marvel .75
☐ ***Femforce 19*** AC $2.25
☐ ***Firestorm 84*** 2/16 DC $1
☐ ***Fish Police 15*** 2/16 Comico $1.95

☐ ***Flare 5*** Hero $2.75
Book-length story of vengeance illustrated by Mark Beachum
☐ ***Flash Cloisonne Pin*** 2/9 DC $4.95
☐ ***Fright Night 7*** 2/9 NOW $1.75
☐ ***GI Joe 87*** 2/23 Marvel $1
☐ ***GI Joe European Missions 9*** 2/9 Marvel $1.75
☐ ***GI Joe Special Missions 22*** 2/9 Marvel $1
☐ ***Gilgamesh II 1*** 2/23 DC $3.95
Jim Starlin unleashed! Starlin writes and illustrates this series updating the oldest epic known to man–a CSN Hot Pick
☐ ***Gladstone Album 17*** Gladstone $5.95
Featuring Mickey Mouse by Floyd Gottfredson
☐ ***Green Arrow 17*** 2/23 DC $1.25
☐ ***Grendel 28*** 2/9 Comico $1.95
☐ ***Grimjack 59*** 2/16 First $1.95
☐ ***Groo the Wanderer 52*** 2/16 Marvel $1
☐ ***Grootlore 2*** Fantagraphics $2
☐ ***Gun Fury 2*** Aircel $1.95
Superheroes, comics fans, violence, and humor all come together in this Barry Blair creation
☐ ***Havok & Wolverine 3*** 2/23 Marvel $3.50
This fully painted epic continues after a month's delay–a CSN Hot Pick
☐ ***Haywire 9*** 2/23 DC $1.50
☐ ***Heathcliff 34*** 2/16 Marvel $1
☐ ***Heavy Metal*** May $3.95
☐ ***Heliblazer 18*** 2/23 DC $1.25
☐ ***Hero Hotline 1*** 2/23 DC $1.75
Who do you call on when your problems are a little less planet-threatening than a Darkseid invasion? Try Hero Hotline! A CSN Hot Pick
☐ ***Hero Sandwich 6*** Slave Labor $1.75

☐ ***High Caliber 2*** Caliber $1.95
☐ ***HR Giger's Necronomicon II*** Catalan $110
☐ ***Huntress 1*** 2/9 DC $1
Cavaliere and Staton bring an all-new Huntress into today's DC Universe–a CSN Hot Pick
☐ ***Huntress 2*** 2/16 DC $1
☐ ***Illustrated Book of Opera HC*** 2/9 Eclipse $35
☐ ***Incredible Hulk 356*** 2/23 Marvel .75
☐ ***Judge Dredd 29*** Quality $1.50
☐ ***Jughead with Archie Digest 92*** 2/16 Archie $1.35
☐ ***Justice 32*** 2/23 Marvel $1.50
☐ ***Justice League International 25*** 2/16 DC .75
☐ ***Justice Machine 26*** 2/9 Comico $1.95
☐ ***Justy 5*** 2/9 Viz $1.75
☐ ***Justy 6*** 2/23 Viz $1.75
☐ ***Kiku San 4*** Aircel $1.95
☐ ***Laugh Digest 82*** 2/9 Archie $1.35
☐ ***Legion of Super-Heroes 59*** 2/23 DC $1.75
☐ ***Life with Archie 272*** 2/9 Archie .75
☐ ***Little Archie Digest 36*** 2/16 Archie $1.35
☐ ***Lone Wolf & Cub 22*** 2/9 First $2.50
☐ ***Love & Rockets Book 6: Duck Feet TPB*** Fantagraphics $12.95
☐ ***Mad 288*** Mad $1.50
☐ ***Manhunter 12*** 2/16 DC $1
☐ ***Marshal Law 6*** 2/16 Marvel $1.95
The long-running saga comes to an end!
☐ ***Marvel Age 75*** 2/23 Marvel .50
☐ ***Marvel Comics 21*** 2/9 Marvel $1.25
Featuring Cyclops, Black Panther, Paladin, and the Thing
☐ ***Marvel Comics 22*** 2/23 Marvel $1.25
Featuring Cyclops, Black Panther, Starfox, and Wolfsbane
☐ ***Marvel Fanfare 44*** 2/23 Marvel $1.95
Iron Man and Doctor Doom as interpreted by the inimitable Ken Steacy
☐ ***Marvel Tales 224*** 2/23 Marvel .75
Reprinting Spider-Man 89

☐ ***MAZE Agency 3*** 2/16 Comico $1.95
Jennifer and Gabe go looking for a stolen car–a unique prototype that has disappeared–more mystery from Barr and Hughes
☐ ***Mickey Mouse 247*** Gladstone .95
☐ ***Miracle Squad 4*** Apple $1.95
☐ ***Mister Miracle 4*** 2/23 DC $1
☐ ***Mystery Man 4*** Slave Labor $1.75
☐ ***Nam Magazine 11*** 2/16 Marvel $2
☐ ***Natural Inquirer 1*** Fantagraphics $2.25
☐ ***New Archies 14*** 2/9 Archie .75
☐ ***New Gods 2*** 2/9 DC $1.50
☐ ***New Guardians 9*** 2/9 DC $1.25
☐ ***New Humans 13*** Eternity $1.95
☐ ***New Mutants 76*** 2/16 Marvel $1
☐ ***Nexus 57*** 2/9 First $1.95
Adam Hughes is the guest artist in this story that brings Horatio in confrontation with the Merk in preparation for a new Nexus' debut
☐ ***Nexus Legends 2*** 2/23 First $1.50
☐ ***Ninja High School 9*** Eternity $1.95
☐ ***Ninja High School Special Edition 4*** Eternity $2.25
☐ ***Nyoka the Jungle Girl 4*** AC $2.25
☐ ***Original Black Cat 2*** Recollections $2
Reprinting classic Black Cat stories illustrated by Lee Elias
☐ ***Out of This World TP*** Snyder $6.95
It's a Ditko month–another trade paperback reprinting hard-to-find Ditko horror stories
☐ ***Outlanders 3*** Dark Horse $2
☐ ***Phantom 1*** 2/9 DC $1.50
The Ghost Who Walks saunters into comics shops courtesy of Verheiden and McDonnell–a CSN Hot Pick
☐ ***Pineapple Army 5*** 2/9 Viz $1.75
☐ ***Pineapple Army 6*** 2/23 Viz $1.75
☐ ***Power Pack 46*** 2/9 Marvel $1.50
☐ ***Prisoner 4*** 2/9 DC $3.50
The final installment of the sequel to the popular television series
☐ ***Private Files of the Shadow HC*** 2/9 DC $19.95

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If you enjoy reading *CSN*, don't thank us...

...Thank your retailer!

While you probably pay little or nothing for a new copy of ***Comic Shop News***, it isn't free. The friendly folks at the shop where you pick this up pays for those copies each week. They do this because they want you to know about what's happening in the comics scene today and nobody does that better than ***CSN***. So next time you pick up a copy of the newsletter, be sure to thank the retailer for carrying it; after all, you can't get a subscription to ***CSN***, it is available exclusively at comic speciality outlets, like the one you where you shop!

UPCOMING COMICS CHECKLIST

As if quality reprintings of O'Neil/Kaluta Shadow stories isn't enough, how about topping it off with a new Kaluta Shadow tale?–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Psi Force 32*** 2/9 Marvel $1.50

☐ ***Punisher: Return To Big Nothing GN*** 2/23 Marvel $19.95
Delayed for a month, the Grant/Zeck/Beatty hardcover Punisher graphic novel finally debuts–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Punisher 20*** 2/23 Marvel $1

☐ ***Punisher War Journal 6*** 2/9 Marvel $1.50
The Punisher faces off against Wolverine–and comics shops may never be the same–A CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Question 26*** 2/9 DC $1.75
O'Neil and Cowan present their interpretation of the Riddler–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Racer-X 8*** 2/28 NOW $1.75

☐ ***Ralph Snart Adventures 8*** 2/9 NOW $1.75

☐ ***Redfox 20*** Titan $2

☐ ***Roachmill 6*** Dark Horse $1.95

☐ ***Robotech II: The Sentinels 4*** Eternity $1.95

☐ ***Robotech: Macross Saga 36*** 2/23 Comico $1.95
Final issue

☐ ***Rogue Trooper 29*** Quality $1.50

☐ ***Rust 5*** 2/9 NOW $1.75

☐ ***Savage Henry 9*** Vortex $1.75

☐ ***Savage Sword of Conan 160*** 2/16 Marvel $2

☐ ***Scavengers 13*** Quality $1.50

☐ ***Secret Origins 39*** 2/23 DC $1.50
Featuring Animal Man and Man-Bat

☐ ***Semper Fi' 7*** 2/9 Marvel .75

☐ ***She-Hulk 2*** 2/9 Marvel $1.50
John Byrne gets even zanier in this issue, as the Toad Men return–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Silver Surfer 24*** 2/23 Marvel .75

☐ ***Slaine the Berserker 22*** Quality $1.50

☐ ***Snarf 11*** Kitchen Sink $2

☐ ***Solo Avengers 19*** 2/16 Marvel .75

☐ ***Spacehawk 1*** Dark Horse $2
Featuring classic Wolverton reprints–along with an all-new Spacehawk story!–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Speakeasy 95*** 2/16 Eclipse $1.95

☐ ***Spectre 25*** 2/9 DC $1.50

I DON'T SEE ANYTHING... NOT WITH ANY OF MY SENSES
OF COURSE NOT, FRED'S TOTALLY INVISIBLE! THAT MEANS YOU CAN'T SEE HIM!
GOT A LIGHT, BILLY ?
ALWAYS FOR YOU, DI— BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO GIVE UP SMOKING.
MORNING, EVERYBODY
TOMORROW
HOTLINE
BOB ROSAKIS . STEPHEN DESTEFANO & KURT SHAFFENBERGER . BRIAN AUGUSTYN

Hero Hotline #1

☐ ***Spicy Tales 6*** Eternity $1.95

☐ ***Spicy Tales Special 1*** Eternity $2.25

☐ ***Spider-Man: Fearful Symmetry HC*** 2/16 Marvel $19.95
Reprinting the Kraven storyline by DeMatteis and Zeck–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Spirit 52*** Kitchen Sink $2
Two Sand Saref stories highlight this issue

☐ ***St. George 6*** 2/16 Marvel $1.50

☐ ***Stargators 1*** Burcham $2.50

☐ ***Static TPB*** Snyder $6.95
Yes indeedy, it's another Ditko reprint trade paperback!

☐ ***Steranko History of the Comics 1*** Supergraphics $10

☐ ***Steranko History of the Comics 2*** Supergraphics $12
Long thought out-of-print, some copies of Steranko's superb history of comics have been found and made available to comics shops–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Strikeforce: Morituri 30*** 2/9 Marvel $1.50

☐ ***Strontium Dog 22*** Quality $1.50

☐ ***Sub-Mariner 8*** 2/23 Marvel $1.50

☐ ***Suicide Squad 25*** 2/9 DC $1

☐ ***Superman 30*** 2/23 DC .75
The confrontation between Lexcorp and STAR Labs begins here and continues in upcoming issues of both Superman titles

☐ ***Survivors GN*** Burnside $10.95
Gathering all the various Survivors issues in a single volume–lots of Woron artwork

☐ ***Tales of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 8*** Mirage $1.50

☐ ***Team Yankee TPB*** 2/9 First $12.95
Trade paperback edition of last fall's popular limited series

☐ ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 2*** 2/16 Archie $1
New Mike Garcia Turtles stories inspired by the cartoon series

☐ ***Thor 404*** 2/23 Marvel .75

☐ ***Three Musketeers 2*** Eternity $1.95

☐ ***Tommy & The Monsters 2*** Nicotat $2

☐ ***Torrid Affairs 2*** Eternity $1.95

☐ ***Trouble With Girls 1*** 2/23 Comico $1.95
Lester Girls adds some color to his drab life in this new full-color series from Comico–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Twilight Avenger 6*** Eternity $1.95

☐ ***Twilight Man 1*** 2/23 First $2.75
Kicking off the First Fiction line with a new mystical series by Steven Grant–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Uncle Scrooge Adventures 13*** Gladstone .95

☐ ***Usagi Yojimbo 15*** Fantagraphics $2

☐ ***V For Vendetta 10*** 2/16 DC $2
For the first time ever, we'll finally see the ending of the V for Vendetta storyline courtesy of Alan Moore and David Lloyd–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Valerian Book 2*** NBM $6.95
Full-color volumes presenting the adventures of Valerian, spatiotemportal agent–one of the best sf strips ever done–A CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Vox 1*** Apple $1.95
A new SF series with a John Byrne cover

☐ ***Walt Disney's Comics & Stories 539*** Gladstone .95

☐ ***Wanderers 12*** 2/9 DC $1.50

☐ ***War 1*** 2/16 Marvel $3.50
The New Universe heads to war–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Web of Spider-Man 51*** 2/9 Marvel $1

☐ ***Weird Tales 293*** $4

☐ ***West Coast Avengers 45*** 2/9 Marvel .75
The Vision re-defined

☐ ***Whisper 25*** 2/16 First $1.95

☐ ***Wild Knights 10*** Eternity $1.95

☐ ***Wolfpack 11*** 2/16 Marvel .75

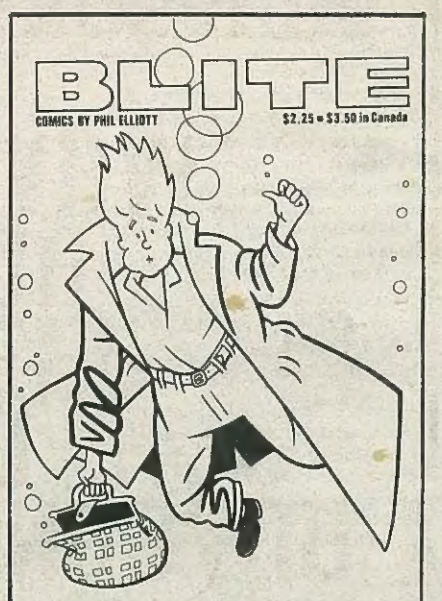
☐ ***Wolverine 8*** 2/16 Marvel $1.50
Wolverine and the Hulk face off–a CSN Hot Pick

☐ ***Wonder Woman 29*** 2/16 DC $1

☐ ***X-Men 245*** 2/23 Marvel $1

☐ ***Young All-Stars 25*** 2/16 DC $1.75

☐ ***Zot! 25*** 2/9 Eclipse $2



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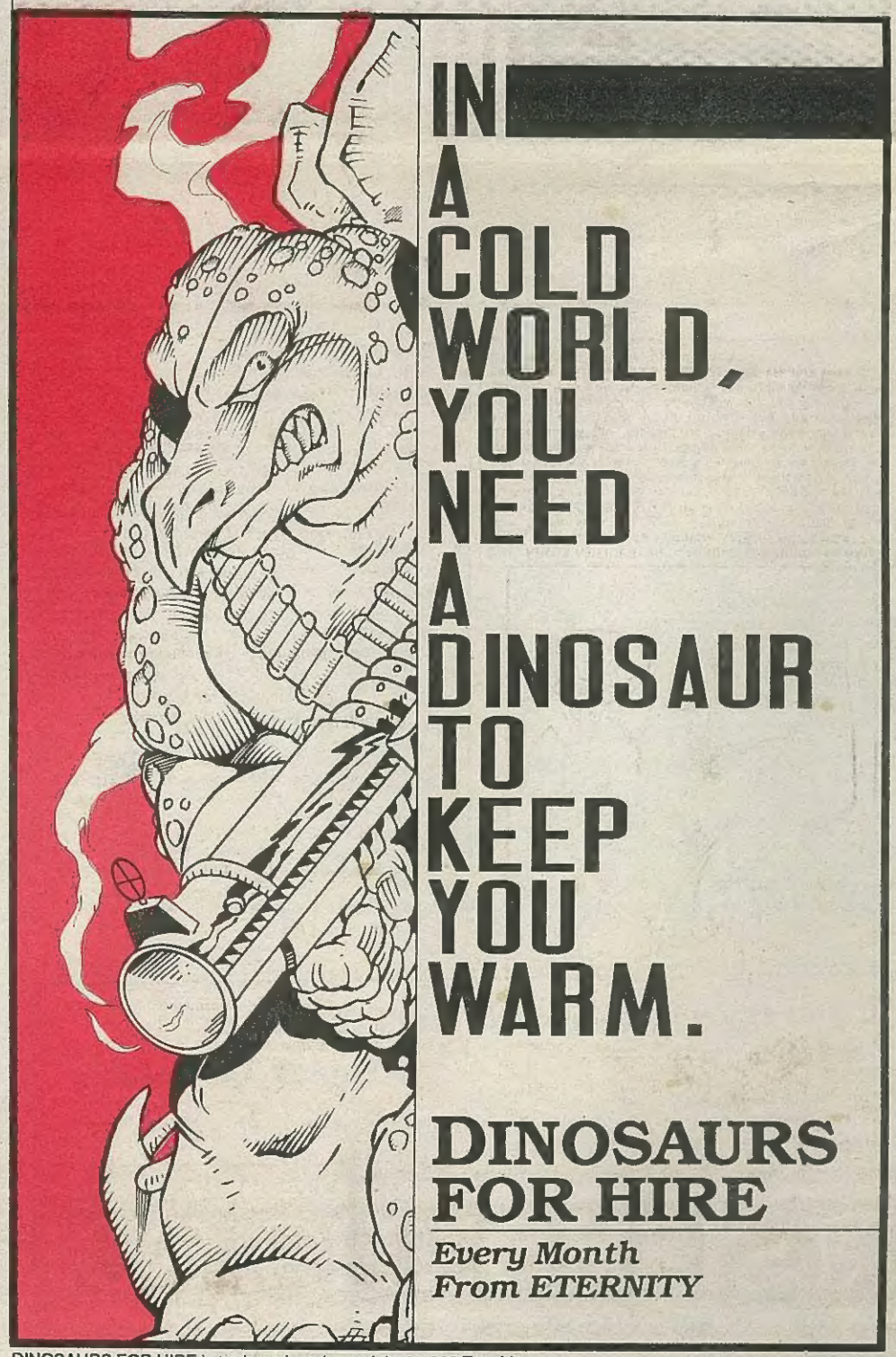

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